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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Before claim 1, change ~~Patent claims~~ to I CLAIM:

Cancel claims 1-6 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein and substitute new claims 7-12, as set forth in the following listing of the claims:

Claims 1-6 (cancelled)

7. (new) A sensor system for detecting a pedestrian collision in the front region (4) of a motor vehicle (1), the sensor system having at least one fiber optic sensor (5) that extends in the front region (4) of the motor vehicle (1) largely over the entire vehicle width (19), which sensor is deformable by the collision of an object (18, 20, 21) in the front region (4), wherein a signal is generated by the fiber optic sensor (5) owing to the collision of the object (18, 20, 21), and wherein, in addition to the fiber optic sensor (5), there is arranged in the front region (4) of the motor vehicle (1) at least one infrared sensor (6) that generates a signal for distinguishing between the collision of animate (18, 20) and inanimate objects (21).

8. (new) The sensor system for detecting a pedestrian collision as claimed in claim 7, wherein the fiber optic sensor (5) is integrated in the front fender (3) of the motor vehicle (1).

9. (new) The sensor system for detecting a pedestrian collision as claimed in claim 7, wherein the infrared sensor (6) is integrated in the front fender (3) of the motor vehicle (1).

10. (new) The sensor system for detecting a pedestrian collision as claimed in claim 7, wherein the signals of the fiber optic sensor (5) and of the infrared sensor (6) are evaluated by a control unit (7).

11. (new) The sensor system for detecting a pedestrian collision as claimed in claim 7, wherein the control unit (7) is also fed signals from a temperature sensor (17) that are evaluated in the control unit (7) in addition to the signals of the fiber optic sensor (5) and of the infrared sensor (6).

12. (new) The sensor system for detecting a pedestrian collision as claimed in claim 7, wherein the control unit (7) is also fed signals from a tachometer (22) that are evaluated in the control unit (7) in addition to the signals of the fiber optic sensor (5), of the infrared sensor (6) and of the temperature sensor (17).